FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1644   **PRINTERS NO**. 3043   **PRIME SPONSOR**: Struzzi

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23
General Fund	$0	See Fiscal Impact

SUMMARY: House Bill 1644, Printer's Number 3043, establishes the Medicaid Care Transition Program Act. This legislation would be effective in 60 days.

ANALYSIS: HB 1644 requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to establish policies and procedures that require Medical Assistance (MA) behavioral health managed care organizations (BH-MCOs) to establish care transition units responsible for working with hospitals and behavioral health crisis centers to identify post-acute placements for MA recipients awaiting transfer.

If a BH-MCO fails to secure an appropriate post-acute placement for an MA recipient in a timely manner the bill requires DHS to work with the BH-MCO, other state agencies, and other entities to resolve the issues. DHS is required to review data about such interventions as part of relevant licensing surveys and require corrective action plans from BH-MCOs as appropriate.

The bill requires DHS to submit a report to the General Assembly within one year and annually thereafter that includes a summary of the escalation policy and DHS activity, the number of instances that BH-MCOs failed to timely secure appropriate post-acute placement for MA recipients, de-identified information on the diagnosis and length of stay of those individuals, and information on corrective action taken by DHS.

FISCAL IMPACT: Enactment of this legislation would codify certain actions that DHS and BH-MCOs should be engaging in as part of overseeing and operating the managed care delivery system for the behavioral health component of the MA program. Therefore, this legislation should have no adverse impact on Commonwealth funds.

PREPARED BY: Nick McClure
                     House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: May 25, 2022

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.